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THE
GENERATIONS
OF
A NEW-ENGLAND FAMILY

Alexander Smith ^{by} Hayes



CAMBRIDGE
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INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

THESE verses are printed at the request of those who participated in the performance, and solely for their private use.

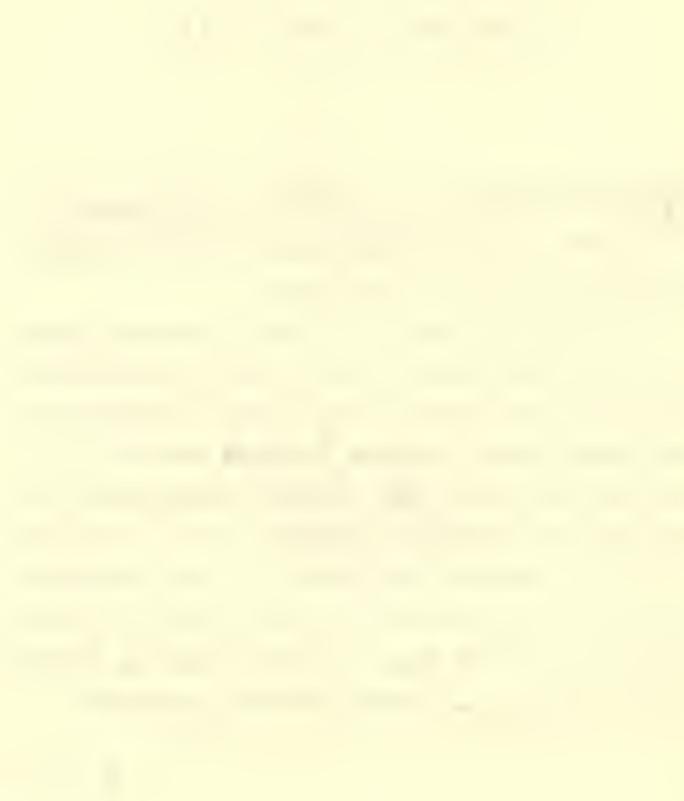
The incidents referred to are the common property of all descended from the same stock, those relating to the earlier generations belonging to a very large circle of New England families. It is obvious that every old New England family has among its traditions incidents and personages equally memorable with those I have presented. All that can be claimed for the family, or group of families, to which these incidents belong, is that their traditions have been faithfully preserved.

A. L. H.



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THE WORLD OF THE WORLD



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THE WORLD



THE
GENERATIONS OF A NEW-ENGLAND
FAMILY.

VERSES

RECITED AT THE HOUSE OF

MR. CHARLES E. WENTWORTH, IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.,
Christmas Evening, 1885.

WRITTEN BY A DESCENDANT¹ OF ALL THE ANCESTORS NAMED
IN THE EARLY GENERATIONS, AND ACCCOMPANIED BY SCENES
ACTED BY OTHER DESCENDANTS.

AS years succeeding to our country bring
The thronging millions from their older
shores,
And o'er the acres of our welcoming land
The mighty tide of diverse peoples pours,—
May we not fear lest that traditions old
Of early virtues and colonial grace
May dim with time, and be not handed down
And duly taught to a succeeding race?

¹ Alexander Ladd Hayes, of Cambridge, Mass.

And so let memories of our ancient sires
 This festive time engage,
 While we depict by living scenes
 Each generation's age!

1ST GENERATION.

1637.

First Emigrants,
 and introduction of
 first printing-press.

When tyrants ruled in Church and State
 And freemen felt the rod,
 Our fathers came to found a State
 And here to worship God.

Scene.

GLOVER'S VISION.

Dramatis Personae:
 Elder Wentworth,
 Governor Dudley,
 Jose Glover.

From stately manor-house they came,
 They came from college hall,
 Here in this wilderness to stand,
 Or here to bravely fall.

One traced his stock from Doomsday Book
 And an illustrious line,
 One fought with Henry of Navarre,
 One served in English shrine.

Their faith was strong, but strongest faith
 Must learning's need confess,
 And Newetowne's¹ earliest cabins saw
 The college and the press.

¹ "November, 1637, the college is ordered to be at Newetowne."
 "May 2d, 1638, It is ordered that Newetowne shall henceforward
 be called Cambridge."

The Elder Wentworth,¹ Dudley² brave,
And Glover³ sage are met
In council grave to meditate
The toils their paths beset.

1ST GENERATION.
Continued.

Their spirits droop, their courage fails,
Till, with prophetic sight,
In vistas of a coming age
They find inspiring light.

¹ ELDER WILLIAM WENTWORTH, ancestor of the members of the Wentworth and Hayes families present, was descended from Reginald Wentworth, enrolled in the Doomsday Book as Rynald de Wynterwade, or Reginald of Wentworth, who was living at the time of the Norman Conquest, A. D. 1066, and was of Norman descent. To this family belonged the famous Earl of Strafford and the Marquis of Rockingham, whose names were given by the royal governors of the Wentworth name to two of the New Hampshire counties, Strafford and Rockingham.

² THOMAS DUDLEY, who emigrated in 1630, the first Deputy-Governor and second Governor of the Massachusetts Colony, an ancestor of the Ladd family present, served in his youth with the English and French forces at the siege of Amiens, 1597, under Henry IV., otherwise called Henry of Navarre.

³ Rev. JOSE GLOVER, a clergyman of the English Church, styling himself clerk, or *clericus*, emigrated from Sutton, in Surrey, in 1638. He brought with him the first printing-press in America, which was set up in Cambridge, and was worked by Stephen Daye, as a servant of Glover, at whose expense the former came over. To Glover unquestionably belongs the honor of introducing printing into America. Glover is introduced in the scene described, by poetical license. He, in fact, died at sea "coming hitherward," as Winthrop says. But the press and his family arrived with Daye, who conducted the printing under contracts with Glover made before their departure, and probably for the benefit of his family. Mr. Wentworth's wife is a descendant of Glover.

1ST GENERATION.
Concluded.

For in the town that Dudley founds
 Is highest learning taught,
 And here a younger Wentworth wields
 The press¹ that Glover brought.

Here Rogers² wise and Appleton³
 Adorn the Dudley line,
 And Eliot's⁴ pious work remains,
 Of Glover's faith a sign.⁵

¹ About a stone's throw from the spot where Glover's press was set up stands the "University Press," owned by the firm of John Wilson and Son, of which Mr. Charles Eben Wentworth, the host of the evening, is a partner, and in which, it is believed, the printing of books is conducted to an extent not elsewhere surpassed in this country.

² JOHN ROGERS, who was graduated at Harvard, 1649, son of Rev. Nathaniel Rogers of Ipswich, was the fifth President of Harvard College, 1681, and married Elizabeth Denison, a granddaughter of Governor Dudley.

³ Rev. NATHANIEL APPLETON, D.D., who died in 1794, and was pastor of the First Church in Cambridge, and minister of the College for sixty-six years, was a descendant of Governor Dudley, and also of Glover. Both President Rogers and Dr. Appleton were ancestors of the Ladd family present.

⁴ Eliot's Indian Bible was printed upon Glover's press. Cotton Mather says of this: "Behold, ye *Americans*, the greatest honor that ever you were partakers of! This Bible was printed here at our *Cambridge*, and it is the only Bible that was ever printed in all *America* from the very foundation of the World."

⁵ In this scene the veritable pewter flagon was used which was sent by Captain John Mason to his colony for "church purposes."

Nourished by virtue, fearing God,
The infant States expand,
And in the midst of fertile fields
Meeting and school house stand.

But o'er each thriving settlement
Hovers a peril fell,—
The savage raid, the murderous shot,
And the red Indian's yell.

Then Tozier grasps his trusty gun,
And Plaisted leads his host,
And to repel the savage bold
Sallies the valiant Frost.¹

All filled, alas! the martyr's grave:
But blood not lost, I ween,
For here their children's children stand
To act again the scene.

2D AND 3D GEN.
RATIONS.
1675-1713.

Indian Wars.

Scene.
Death of Major
Frost.

Dramatis Personæ:
Major Frost and
Indians.

¹ The periods of the Indian wars — from King Philip's war, 1675, to the Treaty of Utrecht, 1713 — cover two generations. Richard Tozier and Roger Plaisted were killed in 1675; Major Charles Frost, in 1697; Nathaniel Ladd, in 1691. All the above were ancestors of the writer, two belonging to the second, and the others to the third, generation.

4TH GENERATION.

Circa 1735.

Col. John Tufton
Mason.

Scene 1.

Finding the signet-
ring in the old
cabinet.

Scene 2.

Recognition of Tufton
Mason by the
Earl of Thanet.

Another age, a youth¹ we see
 Who toils at humble trade,
 Heir of the man whom royal Charles
 Lord of New Hampshire made.

But how can he, an unknown boy
 Who wields the saw and plane,
 With neither influence nor friends,
 His heritage regain?

¹ It is a family tradition, well confirmed, that John Tufton Mason, the fifth in descent from Captain John Mason, the grantee of New Hampshire, born in Boston, 1713, when a youth in humble circumstances, and engaged in mechanical pursuits, was made to know his connection with the Tufton family, of which the Earl of Thanet was the head, by the discovery in an old cabinet (still preserved) of a signet-ring bearing the Tufton coat-of-arms, with the motto, *ales volat propriis*, — which may be interpreted, “the bird flies to its own;” that he proceeded to England; that his claims to connection with the family were recognized by the Earl on the production of the signet-ring; that under the patronage of the Earl he was advanced in the British military service, rising to the rank of Major of Marines, in which capacity he commanded the British troops which captured Senegal from the French. The latter circumstances are fully described by Smollett. For his gallantry on this occasion he was made colonel, and Governor of Senegal. He afterwards returned to this country with his two daughters, who presented to St. John’s Church, in Portsmouth, the superb baptismal font which was taken, as the inscription says, “*ex manubiosis Gallicis*,” at Senegal. He successfully established his claim to the inheritance of the Mason grant. A portion of the property inherited through the female line still remains in the family.

Fear not, brave youth! the Tufton blood
Must ever find its own:
The cabinet you ope to-day
Contains a signet stone.

4TH GENERATION.
Concluded.

The arms that graven signet shows
Are yours with right to wear:
Thanet's proud Earls, of Tufton name,
The same escutcheon bear.

Armed with that magic talisman
Seas shall be bravely crossed,
And England's Lords with open arms
Shall greet a kinsman lost.

The Earl shall aid thee as his own,
Thy worth shall win the rest,
And spoils of captured Senegal
Thy valor shall attest.

Again shall Mason's fame be known,
For gentle blood will tell,
And field and forest of the grant
Thy heiresses may sell.

5TH GENERATION.

1765-1776.

The Revolution.

*Scene 1.*Meeting of Pat-
riots.*Scene 2.*Casting of bullets
by Dr. Haven in
his library.

The years roll on, Old Strawberry Bank
Is famous Portsmouth town,
Where Wentworths¹ rule in royal state
And represent the Crown;

Where commerce has its thriving seat,
And Moffatt,² Langdon,³ Parry,⁴
To distant lands, in freighted ships,
New England's products carry.

But Freedom in our sires' esteem
Had greater worth than trade,
And all resist the odious tax
By tyrant England laid.

The tea to Portsmouth merchants shipped
Is not allowed to land,

¹ Lieutenant-Governor JOHN WENTWORTH; his son, Benning Wentworth; and John, subsequently Sir John Wentworth,—successively represented the crown as governors of New Hampshire. The first of these was an ancestor of the Wentworths present.

² JOHN MOFFATT came from Bristol, England, in the same ship with the famous Bishop Berkeley and the artist Smibert, by whom his portrait, as well as that of his wife, now in the possession of Mr. Alexander H. Ladd, was painted. He was a flourishing merchant, and built, in 1762, the house on Market Street in which Mr. Alexander H. Ladd now resides.

³ Governor JOHN LANGDON and General WILLIAM WHIPPLE, both eminent as merchants, patriots, and statesmen, were brought up in John Moffatt's counting-room.

⁴ MARTIN PARRY, an honored merchant, and ancestor of the members of the Jones family present.

And Chairman Sims¹ unites the town
In solid ranks to stand.

5TH GENERATION.
Continued.

The war comes on: Ladd² arms his ships,
Bold Manning³ takes command,
And British merchants rue the hour
That yields them to his hand.

While reverend Haven,⁴ when is brought
News of the Concord fight,
His pen throws down, and bullets casts
Throughout the livelong night.

All were aroused, each did his part,
And, trained in virtue's school,
Our fathers won in toil and blood
The people's right to rule.

¹ Aug. 14, 1776, the citizens of Portsmouth, at a meeting, "solemnly engaged and promised that they would, to the utmost of their power, at the risk of their lives and fortunes, with arms, oppose the hostile proceedings of the British fleets and armies against the united American Colonies." JOSEPH SIMS was chairman of the Board of Selectmen at that time. He was an ancestor of the members of the Jones family present.

² Colonel ELIJAH LADD, one of the most enterprising merchants of Portsmouth, built and fitted out ships to be used under letters of marque.

³ THOMAS MANNING, a "Son of Liberty," and subsequently an eminent merchant and distinguished political leader, commanded with brilliant success one of Colonel Ladd's ships. He was an ancestor of the members of the Emery family present.

⁴ Rev. SAMUEL HAVEN, D.D., a divine in Portsmouth, distinguished for learning and piety, illustrated his patriotism by the act

5TH GENERATION.
Concluded.

Their spirit lingered in their sons,
Who to free servile toil
In later days were first to sound
The tocsin of "Free Soil."¹

6TH GENERATION.
1782.

Ball given to the
officers of the
French fleet at
close of war.

Peace smiles again, the land is free,
Matrons and maids are gay,
For French corvette and frigate lie
At anchor in the bay.²

1. Scene in Gen.
Whipple's house.

Dramatis Personae:
Gen. Whipple,
Madam Whipple,
Polly Moffatt,
Prince.

2. Scene in ball-
room.

Dramatis Personae:
Gen. Whipple,
Madam Whipple,
Polly Moffatt,
Marquis de Chas-
tellux,
Count Vaudreuil.
French officers,
Ladies and gentle-
men.

described in the verse, and also by establishing saltpetre works for the manufacture of gunpowder, so much needed. His residence in Portsmouth is now occupied by his great-granddaughters, the Misses Eliza Appleton and Charlotte Maria Haven.

It was Dr. Haven who, on the occasion of Washington's visit to Portsmouth, October 1789, upon the question arising how the distinguished visitor should be addressed, uttered impromptu the famous lines :

" Fame spread her wings, and with her trumpet blew :
' Great Washington is near, what praise is due ?
What title shall he bear ? ' She paused, and said :
' Not one ; his name alone strikes every title dead ! ' "

¹ The poet Whittier records the fact that the "Free Soil" movement in this country commenced in New Hampshire in 1845. In this Mr. JOHN LORD HAYES was an important actor by speech and pen, and Mr. ALEXANDER H. LADD with his pen. Both of these gentlemen were present.

² In 1782, after the surrender of the British at Yorktown, a French fleet, under the command of Count de Vaudreuil, visited Portsmouth.

The Marquis de Chastellux, a Major-General in the French army, serving under the Count de Rochambeau, also visited Portsmouth at this time. In an account of his travels, he speaks of a visit to Madam WHIPPLE, and refers to her niece, named in the verses, as "already charming."

One maid there is, her name I call,—

Your hat, you sure must doff it!

For French Marquis has owned the charm

Of Polly Tufton Moffatt.¹

6TH GENERATION.
Continued.

Her home is brave on Market Street

Where Whipple² kept his state,

And Madam Whipple took the maid

To train and educate.

A lively girl, she ill could brook

Her prim aunt's rigid school

Of spinnet's touch and housewife's art

And sampler worked by rule.

One day black Prince³ on salver brings

A billet white and neat,

For the grand ball the gentry give

In honor of the fleet.

¹ POLLY (MARY) TUFTON MOFFATT, subsequently Mrs. N. A. Haven, was the granddaughter of Colonel John Tufton Mason, and was named for Lady Mary Tufton, daughter of the Earl of Thanet; in recognition of which Lady Mary presented to her a gold watch and jewellery, now in the possession of her descendants.

The incidents related in the verses are correctly given from the narration of Madam Haven.

² General WILLIAM WHIPPLE, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and Brigadier-General in high command at the battle of Bennington, married a daughter of John Moffatt. At this time he was living in the house built by John Moffatt, before referred to.

³ "Prince" referred to, a negro servant of General Whipple, is an historical character. The fact of his receiving his freedom



6TH GENERATION.
Concluded.

With beaming eyes fair Polly reads,
“ Dear Aunt! pray, let me go !”
“ A child like you ! ” the stern aunt said,
“ Pert Miss, most surely, no ! ”

The kindly General pitying heard,—
He loved the sprightly maid,
And little fearing Madam’s wrath
A crafty plan he laid.

A dress of sky-blue taffeta
His generous hand provides,
The hair-dresser who serves Madame
Has other tasks besides.

He stays to dress Miss Polly’s hair,
And deck her for the rout,
Where Whipple with his dame proceeds,
But then slips slyly out.

He soon returns, his niece on arm,—
Enraged see Madam stand,
As Chastellux and Vaudreuil rush
To beg the beauty’s hand.

Ah, Polly gay! we read your name
On pane by diamond graven,
Can it be you our parents loved
As aged Grandma Haven?

when he accompanied his master to the battle of Bennington,— to which as a slave he went unwillingly, but where as a freeman he did his duty manfully,— is a well-remembered incident in New Hampshire history.

Traditions of the royal days
In the colonial town,
To our grandfathers later times
By household tales came down.

The famed "Assemblies" were remains
Of the colonial time,—
Let their description form a part
Of this memorial rhyme!

No balls in all New England towns
E'er gained such high report,
Surviving relics as they were
Of Portsmouth's mimic court.

The ostrich plumes, the scanty skirts
Which did each form display,
The shortened waist, the open bust,
Were fashions of that day.

Ladd,¹ Wentworth,² Haven,³ courtly Jones⁴
There joined the giddy throng,
Where minuet and country dance
The merry night prolong.

7TH GENERATION.

Circa 1810.

The Portsmouth
Assemblies.

Scene.

Grandfathers and
grandmothers rep-
resented by their
descendants.

¹ Mr. ALEXANDER LADD, grandfather of the writer.

² Mr. EBENEZER WENTWORTH, grandfather of the host of the evening.

³ Hon. NATHANIEL APPLETON HAVEN, great-grandfather of the writer.

⁴ Mr. WILLIAM JONES, grandfather of the hostess of the evening.

7TH GENERATION.
Concluded.

Maria,¹ Sophy,² Susan³—names
Which their granddaughters bear—
There graced slight forms in blooming youth,
As lovely and as fair.

And of these venerated forms
Our memories remain,
As if all loveliness would e'er
Perpetual youth retain.

8TH GENERATION.

Circa 1835.

Capture of the
whale by Alexander
H. Ladd.*Scenes.*

1. The capture.
2. The exhibition.

Our whalers, as 't was told of old
By one whose praise is fame,⁴
Through every sea and every clime
Hunt "their gigantic game."

So as by instinct our bold sire,
Whose youth was Portsmouth's pride,
Leaped at the soul-inspiring words,—
"A whale! a whale! outside!"

Quick is the sharp-prowed whale-boat manned
By youths who seek the main,
With bended backs and sturdy strokes
Eager the prize to gain.

¹ MARIA TUFTON HAVEN, wife of Alexander Ladd.

² SOPHIA LADD, sister of Alexander Ladd, and wife of Mr. JOHN P. LORD, a maternal uncle of the father of the writer.

³ SUSAN LORD, paternal grandmother of the writer, and wife of Hon. WILLIAM A. HAYES, of South Berwick, Maine. Her recollections of the assemblies are well remembered by the writer.

⁴ Edmund Burke.

A spouting fountain marks their prey:
One pull,—they near their prize!
The deadly harpoon, quick as light,
Hurled by our hero, flies.

5TH GENERATION.
Concluded.

As the Philistine giant fell
By the young shepherd's toy,
So was the monster of the deep
Slain by our Portsmouth boy.

Round the huge monster towed ashore
Gathers the gazing town,
And the bold feat which there was done
Gives Portsmouth high renown.

Another scene comes to our view
Of war and dread alarms,
Of wasted fields, of leaguered towns,
Of millions massed in arms.

9TH GENERATION.

1862.

The war of the
Rebellion.

Scenes.

1. The flag of
truce, and meeting
of Union and Con-
federate soldiers.

2. The gift of the
tobacco-pouch.

Men rush to arms at Lincoln's call;
They cry from shore to shore,
We are coming, Father Abraham!
Three hundred thousand more!"

9TH GENERATION.
Continued.

Shall Plaisted's, Ladd's, and Manning's sons
Spurn the inspiring word?

Another Manning¹ grasps his gun,
A younger Ladd² his sword.

One tests his steel and proves his pluck
On Carolina's plain;
The bloody steep of Harrison
Finds one 'midst heaps of slain:³

Himself not slain,—a hair-breadth space
Saves from the fatal ball;
His fearful risk, his glad escape,
Let acted scene recall,⁴—

¹ Mr. MANNING EMERY, Sergeant Co. K, Forty-fourth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, and present on this occasion.

² Captain WILLIAM JONES LADD, Aide-de-camp on the Staff of General George H. Stannard, commanding Second Division Eighteenth Army Corps, Army of the James, and also present.

³ The allusion is to the following incident. Captain Ladd, who was conspicuous by a white horse which he rode in the action at Fort Harrison, Sept. 30, 1864, was picked off by a Confederate sharpshooter, and supposed to be mortally wounded. After his recovery and return to duty, on the occasion of a flag of truce being sent between the lines, accompanied by an officer of General Stannard's staff, a Confederate officer, in conversation about the action at Fort Harrison, inquired with solicitude as to the fate of the officer on the *white* horse, whom he had directed one of his sharpshooters to fire at, and whom he had seen fall. On being informed that he had recovered, he expressed great satisfaction, and sent to Captain Ladd a pouch filled with tobacco,—the only gift he could offer in token of the relief which the intelligence of the recovery of a gallant enemy gave him.

The scene acted represented Captain Ladd as carrying the flag of truce himself, and the very tobacco pouch, with its contents, which had been religiously preserved, was displayed.

⁴ The restrictions of verse necessarily prevent an allusion to others whose services to their country were equally meritorious.

One which will show war's breathing spell
When the fierce conflicts cease,
And Union and Confederate
Long for the pipe of peace.

9TH GENERATION.
Concluded.

Peace with its gladsome victories
Marks our last acted age,
When smiling girls and graceful boys
Wait for life's busy stage.

Behold them circling in the dance
With hearts as light as air,
The pure blush mantling every cheek,
Each face devoid of care !

Youth, joyous youth, loves not the past,
The present fills its eye,
Before it hopes of future bliss
On gilded pinions fly.

10TH AND LAST
GENERATION.

Scene.

1. The children's dance.
2. Singing of hymn, "Let children hear," to tune of "St. Martin's," by the company.

Major JOHN LANGDON WARD, a grandnephew of Governor John Langdon above referred to, and a descendant of both Plaisted and Ladd, was a student at Harvard College at the outbreak of the Rebellion. He left Boston, April 18, 1861, as a private in the Salem Zouaves, Eighth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers (three months' troops), and served out his enlistment. After his graduation he was commissioned Captain in the Fiftieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, Major in the Seventy-fifth United States Colored Troops, and was Commissary of Musters on the staff of General Andrews at Port Hudson.

Another who served was Dr. ELLIOTT COUES, descended from both Plaisted and Ladd, Medical Cadet and Acting Assistant-Surgeon during the war.

CONCLUSION.

But let it for a moment pause,
And join the solemn song
Which pious ancestors have sung
For generations long.

“ Let children hear the mighty deeds
Which God performed of old,
Which in our younger days we saw
And which our fathers told.

“ Our lips shall teach them to our sons
And they again to theirs,
And generations yet unborn
Shall teach them to their heirs.”



The Generations of

A NEW-ENGLAND FAMILY.

